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U.S. ARMY MILITARY DISTRICT OF WASHINGTON
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ANOP-OS

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MEMORANDUM FOR SEE DISTRIBUTION

SUBJECT: Policy Letter – Motorcycle, All-Terrain Vehicle, Specialty Vehicle and Bicycle Safety – Memorandum #18

1. REFERENCES.

- a. Army Regulation 385-10 (The Army Safety Program).
- b. Department of Defense (DoD) Instruction 6055.04 (DoD Traffic Safety Program).
- c. Army Regulation 190-5 (Motor Vehicle Traffic Supervision).

2. PURPOSE. To provide guidance for motorcycle, all-terrain vehicle (ATV), specialty vehicle and bicycle safety to ensure compliance with DoD and Army policy.

3. APPLICABILITY. This policy is applicable to Joint Force Headquarters - National Capital Region/U.S. Army Military District of Washington (JFHQ-NCR/USAMDW), Fort Meade, Joint Base Myer-Henderson Hall, Fort Belvoir, and Fort A.P. Hill. It applies to assigned servicemembers at any time (on or off a DoD installation), to assigned DoD Civilians in a duty status (on or off a DoD installation), and to all persons (including contractor personnel and Family members) at any time on an installation.

4. POLICY. Commanders will ensure the following requirements are incorporated into their motor vehicle safety and traffic safety programs:

a. Licensing.

(1) Any person who operates a motorcycle, specialty vehicle or ATV on an installation must be appropriately licensed, unless not required by regulation and applicable local laws.

(2) Garrison Commanders may designate areas where vehicles that do not meet Federal highway safety standards may be operated. Mini-bikes, pocket bikes, and similar vehicles that do not meet these standards will not be operated on installation roads per reference 1.a.

b. Motorcycles and ATVs.

(1) Training.

(a) All servicemembers who operate or intend to operate a motorcycle and all operators of government-owned motorcycles will attend and complete initial, intermediate/follow-on and

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refresher/sustainment motorcycle rider training per references 1.a. and 1.b. Commands will track and enforce these training requirements and ensure that military riders have access to motorcycle mentorship programs and are encouraged to participate.

(b) DoD civilians who operate a motorcycle in the performance of their assigned duties will complete a mandatory DoD-approved motorcycle safety, Motorcycle Safety Foundation (MSF) or a state-approved motorcycle safety course.

(c) Government-owned ATV and tactical motorcycle operators will complete the training per references 1.a and 1.b. Garrison Commanders may require performance-based training for on-installation operation of privately-owned off-road vehicles. Operators of privately-owned ATVs or off-road motorcycles off-installation are encouraged to complete appropriate operator safety training.

(2) Personal protective equipment (PPE). Operators will wear helmets, eye protection, foot protection, and protective clothing per references 1.a. and 1.b. Garrison-specific PPE requirements (e.g., reflective vests) will not be used as a criterion for privately-owned motorcycle entry onto an installation for any person whose PPE meets the requirements of references 1.a. and 1.b.

(3) Vehicle equipment. Appropriate equipment (e.g., headlights, mirrors, brakes) will be maintained and used per references 1.a and 1.b. All motorcycles and ATVs (when equipped) must have headlights turned on at all times, except when prohibited by military mission or local laws.

c. Specialty vehicles. For the purposes of this policy, specialty vehicles are defined as recreational off-road vehicles or utility vehicles (e.g., Segway HT, M-Gators, Gators, "Mule" utility vehicle, low-speed vehicles, etc.) that do not meet the definition of a motorcycle or ATV per reference 1.b. Commander of units that use government specialty vehicles will establish standard operating procedures that include driver training and qualification (per references 1a and 1b), speed limits, load capacity, personnel capacity, operational work areas, PPE and vehicle equipment requirements.

d. Bicycles. Traffic rules apply to personnel operating bicycles. Everyone riding a bicycle shall have all the rights and responsibilities applicable to a motor vehicle driver.

(1) Any person who rides a bicycle on an installation will wear an approved (e.g., Consumer Product Safety Commission certified) bicycle helmet per references 1.a. and 1.b.

(2) Other vehicle drivers will pass bicyclists at a reasonable speed and at least three feet to the left of the bicycle.

(3) Bicyclists will:

(a) Ride bicycles equipped with operable headlights and taillights and wear a retro-reflective upper outer garment when bicycling on roadways on DoD installations during hours of darkness (i.e.,

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half an hour before sunrise and half an hour after sunset) or reduced visibility. A handheld flashlight is not considered a suitable headlight or taillight.

(b) Obey all traffic signals, signs, and devices.

(c) Ride as near to the right side of the roadways as practicable, exercising care when passing a stationary vehicle or one proceeding in the same direction.

(d) Ride in single file on installation roadways.

(4) Bicyclists will not:

(a) Ride other than on or astride the bicycle seat or allow other persons to ride on the handlebars or frame of a bicycle.

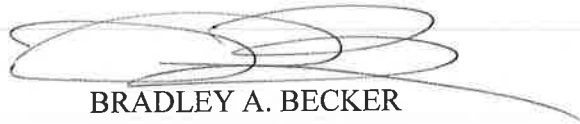
(b) Carry any package, bundle, or article that prevents the bicyclist from keeping at least one hand on the handlebars.

e. Use of listening devices. The use of portable headphones, earphones, cell phones or other listening devices (other than hearing aids) while operating a motorcycle, ATV, specialty vehicle or bicycle on a DoD installation is prohibited per reference 1.b. Motorcycle operators may wear helmets equipped with operator-passenger intercom systems.

5. Failure to comply with this policy may result in persons being denied access to the installation or the revocation of installation driving privileges per reference 1.c.

6. PROCEDURES. Commanders at all levels will ensure requirements outlined in this policy are disseminated to the lowest levels.

7. PROPONENT. The JFHQ-NCR/USAMDW Safety Office is the proponent for this policy letter. The point of contact is the Safety Director at 202-685-3015, DSN 325-3015.



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Commanding

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